

1 by deposition or in court, where you selected, as a
2 preferred model, one that had an increasing
3 propensity to sue with regard to asbestos
4 estimation?

5 A I'm sorry. Testimony -- what did I do
6 under what circumstances?

7 Q When did you give either deposition
8 testimony or trial testimony in an asbestos
9 estimation context where your preferred estimate
10 relied upon an increasing propensity to sue, if you
11 know?

12 A Sitting here, I can't speculate.

13 Q When is the first you recall?

14 A I'm quite sure I did it in Fuller Austin,
15 which is work I did in '97 and '98. During that
16 period of time, I was working primarily on breast
17 implant litigation. I wasn't doing much estimation
18 for asbestos cases. I don't recall what I had done
19 for National Gypsum in that era. It would have been
20 some time between 1995 and 1997 or so. 1998 at the
21 latest.

22 Q Can you point to any contemporaneous
23 documents in 1993 or through the end of January 1994
24 in which responsible observers had suggested that
25 there should be an increasing propensity to sue in

1 asbestos estimations?

2 A I'm not aware of anyone who forecasted in
3 that era having using increased propensities to sue,
4 and the data that were available in that period of
5 time were quite uncertain with regard to what the
6 trends were. It probably wouldn't have -- it really
7 didn't give strong support for any trend, up, down,
8 unchanged. There was uncertainty, and probably
9 most -- the strongest was an unchanged propensity to
10 sue.

11 Because more or less -- well, there's two
12 things. There's the level of claims, and then
13 there's what was happening in the litigation. The
14 level of claims were relatively stable in the early
15 to mid-'90s.

16 Q Are you aware of any responsible experts
17 in asbestos estimation up through January of 1994,
18 other than yourself, who had given opinions that the
19 most probable trend was a decreasing propensity to
20 sue as of January 31, 1994?

21 A I don't think so. I can't think of anyone
22 who may have forecast that.

23 Q Let me ask you to flip over to page 13 in
24 your report, and let's change subjects and talk a
25 little bit about your transition matrix. First of

1 all, can you define for us and the jury what you
2 mean by the term "transition matrix" as you use it
3 in this report?

4 A In the database of any asbestos defendant,
5 invariably, you see some cases where the database
6 does not identify the disease claim, the disease
7 process involved, but since the values of claims
8 vary, depending upon the disease process the
9 claimant alleges, and since our forecasts are based
10 upon disease, it's valuable to try and impute or
11 estimate what the distribution of diseases are among
12 claims that don't have a specified disease. So the
13 transition matrix is essentially a set of numbers
14 that say among those claims that don't have an
15 identified disease, what percentage of them are
16 likely to be mesothelioma, what percent lung cancer,
17 and so on.

18 You can also use a transition matrix to go
19 from an alleged disease to a confirmed disease.
20 There are other uses of it, but in this context,
21 it's used to try to impute or estimate what are the
22 diseases, actual diseases among claims with an
23 unidentified disease, data that's unidentified in
24 the database.

25 Q Go to page 13 you cite that the CCR -- if

1 you'll look at that last paragraph on page 13, I
2 think the third sentence, I'm going to read it. You
3 say "CCR had done an empirical study which was
4 available to GAF in early 1994 using testimony and
5 evidence from the National Gypsum confirmation
6 hearing."

7 Do you see that?

8 A Yes.

9 Q You used that empirical study as a basis
10 for some of your calculations in this report; isn't
11 that true?

12 A Yes.

13 Q Do you have a copy of that empirical
14 study?

15 A I don't have -- that which I got -- I
16 never got the full study. What I got was
17 essentially just the distribution among the claims
18 that CCR looked at. It's a study that they took at
19 my request, as I recall.

20 Q Where is a copy of that distribution that
21 you got from them?

22 A It's in the National Gypsum materials. If
23 we didn't attach it here, I'll send it to you. It's
24 been referenced in a number of my reports.

25 Q Well, we requested it and didn't get it.

1 So we sure would like to have a copy.

2 A I may have the distribution and some other
3 materials upstairs. If you want me to take a break,
4 I can give it to you. It's 1.4 percent for -- oh,
5 it's on page 14.

6 Q I'm asking, I guess, for the reference
7 document, not a summary of it. Did you get some
8 kind of document from them?

9 A All I got was this set of numbers from CCR
10 in their verbal description to me of how they did
11 their study, which I testified about and I can
12 recount to you, if you want.

13 Q I guess I'd like their copy of the set of
14 numbers. What does that look like? Is that on a
15 piece of paper somewhere, or has that been lost
16 along the way?

17 A That's been done 13 years ago. I don't
18 have a copy of it.

19 Q So you don't have a copy of whatever they
20 sent you with the numbers on it?

21 A That's right.

22 Q And the verbal description, do you have a
23 memorandum or any notes on what they said when they
24 gave you that, or is that from recollection?

25 A No. I testified about that in the

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1 National Gypsum case, but I read that section in
2 my -- you can either read it yourself, or I can tell
3 you what I said.

4 Q So the most contemporaneous records you
5 have of what you recall they said was what you
6 testified to in National Gypsum; is that true?

7 A Most certainly, yes, because it was done
8 in that case for me by CCR. It became a standard
9 method that I've used and, I think, other people
10 have used since then to allocate diseases. It was
11 updated -- CCR updated it in 1997 or '8 or some
12 time.

13 Q Was this study published in some kind of
14 booklet form or report form or something?

15 A No.

16 Q How was it delivered to you?

17 A Probably not e-mail in 1993. I don't know
18 if they told me or sent me a piece of paper.
19 Essentially, they gave me this distribution -- I
20 asked them to do an analysis among claims that were
21 originally filed without a specified disease, what
22 did they determine the disease to be, and this was
23 the distribution that they sent me without any other
24 written description of what they had done.

25 Q Did they send it to you by fax? By

1 courier? By mail?

2 A I don't recall.

3 Q Was it on a single sheet of paper, or was
4 it --

5 A It would have been on a single sheet of
6 paper, I think. I don't think they just told me the
7 numbers over the phone.

8 Q This was probably before you were using
9 e-mail extensively or not?

10 A Oh, absolutely. Well, we were actually
11 using the ARPA Net in 1985, but I don't think --
12 well, no, no, this was a period when I was using --

13 Q 1985?

14 A Yeah, in 1985, not for this case. We used
15 it in the Dog and Shield case.

16 Q When was this study done?

17 A I was just telling you when we used
18 computers.

19 Q Right.

20 A This study was done in 1992.

21 Q And you believe it was done at your
22 request?

23 A Yes.

24 Q What is your basis, then, for your
25 sentence which says "which was available to GAF in

1 early 1994"?

2 A Well, it was in the materials, testimony,
3 and documents in the national Gypsum bankruptcy
4 case.

5 Q You mean if they had read your testimony
6 in National Gypsum, they might have been able to
7 glean this from your testimony? Is that what you're
8 saying?

9 A I would be surprised if GAF wasn't
10 following the testimony in the course of the
11 National Gypsum bankruptcy.

12 Q You're saying available to GAF means if
13 they read your testimony in National Gypsum, that's
14 the place it was available; right?

15 A They might have gotten it from CCR.

16 Q They might have, but you made the
17 statement "was available."

18 A It certainly was available. It was a
19 public number. It was used, relied on. It was a
20 basis of the court's findings in that case.

21 Q You state at the bottom -- the sentence at
22 the bottom of page 13 to the top of page 14, "CCR
23 had used databases at different times to identify a
24 group of claims that had unknown diseases in an
25 earlier database and then had determined the

1 specific diseases which they had been assigned as
2 shown in table 5."

3 Did I read that sentence right?

4 A Yes.

5 Q And what were the two different times of
6 the databases that CCR used?

7 A I don't recall.

8 Q Did you ever know?

9 A I don't know. I may not have. I just
10 asked them to undertake this, and they told me this
11 did they this for 12,000 cases.

12 Q How many months or years and months apart
13 were these two different times?

14 A Well, it would have varied, I think, when
15 they knew, it because they would learn this stuff
16 over time. It may -- I subsequently learned that
17 there are -- that CCR database has two fields. They
18 have a alleged disease and a confirmed disease. It
19 may be that it was taken from the same database and
20 they just looked at a set of claims that had no
21 specific alleged disease and just saw what their
22 confirmed was. It's possible that they did that.

23 Q You don't know?

24 A Sitting here right now, I don't.

25 Q Did you ever know?

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1 A I think my inference at the time was that
2 they had a database with two different data -- two
3 different databases that they extracted at different
4 points in time.

5 Q And when you say "databases," your
6 impression is this is two databases and not three,
7 four, five or some larger number of databases?

8 A No. I'm sure if they had done that, it
9 would have been extracted at two different points in
10 time. It's really the same database, just extracted
11 at different points in time.

12 Let me say, GAF could have done this
13 themselves because they had access to the data. So
14 if they wanted to know what were the diseases
15 within -- whether diseases were unknown, what was
16 their -- what was the experience of CCR in
17 determining the diseases, they could have done that
18 themselves. The method was available to them, and
19 the exact same data were available.

20 Q Do you know if, in the second database,
21 some diseases remained unknown?

22 A I'm sure that that's likely to be true.
23 They resolved some claims without knowing the
24 disease.

25 Q Is it your understanding that these

1 percentages are only for those claims in which they
2 did eventually get a disease?

3 A I don't understand your question.

4 Q It probably wasn't very good. Let me try
5 it again.

6 You stated that these are a group of
7 claims that had had unknown diseases in an earlier
8 database and then had determined the specific
9 diseases; correct?

10 A Yes.

11 Q So these were, by definition, claims in
12 which a specific disease was eventually assigned;
13 correct?

14 A Yes.

15 Q And your unspecified category there is
16 0.0; right?

17 A In the transition matrix, that's correct.

18 Q You don't know how many claims were
19 unspecified in this first database and remained
20 unspecified after this passage of time in the second
21 database; correct?

22 A That's correct.

23 Q You would assume there are some?

24 A Yes.

25 Q What was the oldest claim in the GAF

1 database as of January 31, 1994, that still had an
2 unknown disease shown, if you know?

3 A I have no idea.

4 Q Do you know that some claims go for many,
5 many years and never get a disease specified?

6 A Oh, yes, of course.

7 Q Do you know if GAF -- let me strike that
8 and start over.

9 Do you know if the CCR had a procedure for
10 administratively closing claims after they got to be
11 old and simply nonresponsive?

12 A That's not a basis for getting a dismissal
13 on the merits generally. They could have closed it
14 on their books, I guess, and it's probably a good
15 practice from the standpoint of accounting for their
16 claims. I guess I don't recall whether I knew that
17 or not.

18 Q Did you make any assumptions in your study
19 about what would happen if a claim was pending for
20 10 years and the disease was never specified and the
21 court still never dismissed the claim?

22 A Well, we assume that there's some portion
23 of the claims that will never have -- will never
24 have a specified disease and will be closed without
25 payment. And historically, that's 4.3 percent among

1 the GAF claims in this period of time. And so we
2 assumed that on a going-forward basis, that among
3 the pending claims as well, 4.3 percent of them will
4 be closed without payment and without having
5 specified disease.

6 Q What do you understand to be required
7 before a claim can be closed without payment?

8 A I already answered that. CCR can choose
9 to put whatever label it wants on its database at
10 any point in time that it wants. If, as you say,
11 there are stale claims that they think have never
12 been -- the process is not going to be, they can
13 just change the status of them. If you're asking
14 about legal determination, you have to go in and
15 move for a dismissal of the claim.

16 That's the way to get -- or ask the law
17 firm to agree to dismiss the claim, either on the
18 merits with or without prejudice. So those are ways
19 to -- there are different kinds of closings that
20 have different implications.

21 Q In the middle of your paragraph that's
22 under table 5 on page 14, you have a sentence that
23 says "through 1993, GAF had allocated 4.3 percent of
24 unknowns to unspecified disease."

25 What does that mean?

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1 A You have to read the sentence before. Let
2 me start the paragraph. "This transition matrix
3 could then be used to assign to all pending claims a
4 specific disease category. To be conservative, I
5 assumed that a certain fraction of pending claims
6 would eventually close with the disease still
7 unspecified, and I used GAF's fraction of closed
8 unspecified disease claims to calibrate the
9 transition matrix. Through 1993, GAF had allocated
10 4.3 percent of unknowns to unspecified disease. I
11 reduced the CCR transition probability so that the
12 expected fraction of open claims with unspecified
13 diseases was 4.3 percent. The resulting transition
14 probability is shown in table 6."

15 Q How do you know what GAF had done as of
16 1993?

17 A We know cases that they settled. We know
18 cases that were filed. We know cases that were
19 resolved with a resolution date. Those are pieces
20 of information, if the dates -- the resolution
21 dates, the settlement dates that preceded January 1,
22 1994, were events that happened in 1993 or before.

23 Q And what was the date of the data tape you
24 were working with with that information in it?

25 A A 2002 data tape.

1 Q Do you know what the percentage of claims
2 were that were in the unspecified category as of
3 some data tape in 1993 for GAF or that were still
4 unspecified in that 2002 data tape you were using?

5 A Claims that were unspecified in 1993 and
6 unspecified in 2002?

7 Q Do you know which ones were unspecified in
8 1993 and how many of those became specified between
9 then and 2002?

10 A Well --

11 Q Not closed claims, but claims that they
12 had a specification on.

13 A Well, among the claims that had an
14 unspecified disease, there were 6334 that were
15 resolved prior to January 1, 1994, and had an
16 unspecified disease. So presumably, those were and
17 remained unchanged as unspecified disease claims.
18 Essentially, they were done dealing with those
19 claims.

20 Of the remaining claims, there may have
21 been some additional ones. We count 14,588 that
22 were open as of January 1 -- December 31st, 1993,
23 and had an unspecified disease in the database that
24 were used. How many of the claims had the disease
25 added to them between January 1, '94, and the date

1 of our data tape, I can't tell you. But whatever it
2 is, that's the best evidence of the disease
3 distribution for those claims. It's the best way of
4 allocating those claims. So thank God they did it.

5 Q Well, let me ask you, though, the 14,000
6 claims that still had unspecified diseases had been
7 around for almost 10 years and still had unspecified
8 diseases; isn't that true?

9 A They would have, by definition had to been
10 filed prior to January 1, 1994. So they could have
11 been around eight years or more.

12 Q Wouldn't you expect that the mesothelioma
13 claims, for example, would be given some priority by
14 plaintiffs' law firms because they were the
15 higher-value claims?

16 A Not necessarily.

17 Q You don't observe that in the data?

18 A Well, I observe a couple things in the
19 data -- in data. I can't observe specifically this
20 issue here, but I observe that even over the course
21 of eight, 10, 12 years, claims continue to be
22 resolved and have diseases added to them. So simply
23 because a claim's been around a long time doesn't
24 mean that it's necessarily a claim that won't be
25 compensated or identified.

1 And I also understand that there are
2 reasons that law firms defer resolutions of claims
3 because of the issues of the way the legal rules
4 operate in some states is that every time you settle
5 a claim and then you later take -- if you're a law
6 firm and you have a claim to sue 10 people and you
7 take that case to trial, some -- in some
8 jurisdictions, every case that you've settled
9 reduces the amount of money that you can get, even
10 if you obtain a judgment against the people, you get
11 a verdict in the trial. It's a set-off rule, and
12 those set-off rules affect how lawyers choose to
13 settle those claims. So that's an act and
14 consideration by some law firms in some
15 jurisdictions.

16 Q I'm sorry. I'm confused. I thought I
17 knew what a set-off rule was, but I don't
18 understand. This reduces what? The legal fees or
19 it reduces the collection of the claimants against
20 somebody?

21 A The collection of the judgment.

22 Q Why?

23 A Well, always there's a set-off for
24 settling parties. The question is, how do you
25 get -- if you get \$1 million verdict against

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1 defendant A and you previously settle \$500,000 with
2 other defendants for the same claim, typically,
3 whatever you can collect from A is reduced by what
4 you've already been paid by other people to avoid
5 double payment to the victim, to the plaintiff.

6 In some jurisdictions, it's not based upon
7 how much money you've received. It's based upon a
8 pro rata share. If this is one of six defendants,
9 they may -- you have 1/6 of your judgment against
10 defendant A reduced. So there are different set-off
11 rules in different states. Sometimes it's too
12 costly to settle a claim if you think you're going
13 to take the claim to trial. That's particularly
14 relevant in meso cases.

15 Q Do you think that -- so you're saying that
16 some of these might not be specified diseases
17 because they're being prepared for trial? Is that
18 what you're saying?

19 A Against other defendants.

20 Q And you think --

21 A Or tried.

22 Q Did you make any effort to match the
23 Social Security numbers of these claims to find out
24 if they had diseases specified in any of the other
25 databases of any of the other defendants?

1 A I don't know if we did that here or not.
2 I don't believe so. I think we just took the -- we
3 took the methods -- certainly in this action we took
4 the methods of 1994. We took one method. The other
5 method was just assume that the distribution -- that
6 all of the unspecified disease claims get allocated
7 to specific disease categories in the same
8 proportion as you observe them among specific
9 claims. That's another method.

10 It would have put many more claims into
11 the meso/lung cancer category than we actually did.
12 So we took the more conservative method here.

13 Q I want to make sure that I and the jury
14 and the Court will understand what you were looking
15 at and what you were doing here. First, you're
16 working in this part of the report with a data tape
17 that is as of 2002; right?

18 A Yes.

19 Q You're looking at a group of claims that
20 still had no disease specified in them as of 2002;
21 is that true?

22 A Yes.

23 Q Go ahead. You're looking at claims that
24 had been around because they were filed prior to the
25 end of 1993; correct?

1 A Yes.

2 Q During that time period, we all recognize
3 that claims were getting diseases assigned to them,
4 and that was being put into the database; correct?

5 A Well, not completely.

6 Q What's not correct about that?

7 A In another case, the Federal Mogul case,
8 we have three different extracts of data from the
9 Center for Claims Resolution for three members --
10 three companies that were Federal Mogul companies
11 that were all CCR members. And we find that, not
12 infrequently, the data tape we have, for example,
13 for Turner Newell have a claim that doesn't have a
14 specified disease on the Turner Newell extract but
15 will have one on the Ferodo, F-e-r-o-d-o, data from
16 CCR. So CCR may know what the disease is for a
17 plaintiff and they have identified a new database.
18 Remember, CCR is settling these claims.

19 So the mere fact that this extract for GAF
20 or for Turner Newell doesn't reflect what the
21 disease is doesn't mean that CCR is ignorant of it
22 and hasn't determined what that disease is. The
23 implication of your questions have been that there's
24 something odd about an eight-year passage of time
25 about having learned what the disease is. It may be

1 that CCR actually does know that.

2 Q Would you prepare for, the court reporter,
3 a separate index for me and provide it to me? I
4 want to keep a little list here so that I can find
5 things. Would you mark that filibuster 1 for me on
6 the index? Thank you.

7 Perhaps you didn't hear my question. Let
8 me ask it again. During the time period between
9 between the end of 1993 and the data tape in 2002,
10 some disease specifications were occurring and being
11 entered into the database, some; is that true?

12 A What do you mean "the database"?

13 Q The 2002 database you believe was being
14 updated between 1993 and 2002 as some claims came in
15 with more information; is that correct?

16 A There were some claims that, during the
17 course of the period of time from January 1, 1994,
18 through 2002, where the disease was entered in the
19 CCR database. Some of those were entered into an
20 extract of the GAF database, but probably not all of
21 the ones that CCR knew about were entered into the
22 GAF database, based upon my experience with multiple
23 CCR defendants.

24 Q I think we've established before that the
25 date on which these disease updates occurred was not

1 one of the things that was captured in the database;
2 is that correct?

3 A I'm sorry. Could you repeat the question?
4 I was thinking of something else.

5 Q Yes. The date when the disease field was
6 updated is not one of the things that was captured
7 in the database as of 2002; is that correct?

8 A I think that's correct. It's not
9 routinely captured in these kinds of databases.

10 Q So we might say that there was eight years
11 of seasoning on all of the unspecified claims as of
12 1994 between the end of 1993 and the database in
13 2002; isn't that true?

14 A I don't understand your question, what you
15 mean by "seasoning."

16 Q Those claims were sitting around getting
17 older, and whatever was happening to them in terms
18 of processing was happening; isn't that correct?

19 A Well, it's likely that most of them were
20 resolved some time in that period of time.

21 Q Right. And presumably, some of the more
22 serious and more valuable claims would be likely to
23 be resolved; isn't that true?

24 A Some of the claims were resolved.

25 Q You don't think that there is an economic

1 incentive for plaintiffs' lawyers to resolve their
2 strongest and most valuable claims rather than put
3 time and effort into their weakest and least
4 valuable claims?

5 A Well, there's a concomitant economic
6 incentive on the part of CCR and GAF not to settle
7 the most expensive claims, too. They each have
8 imperatives they're operating under. It takes two
9 to settle a claim. So, you know, certainly some of
10 those claims were likely to have been serious claims
11 and some weren't.

12 Q You have looked at processing times for
13 disease categories before in some of your work,
14 haven't you?

15 A Yes.

16 Q On average, the processing times of
17 mesothelioma claims are shorter than the processing
18 times for nonmalignant claims in virtually all of
19 these defendants' databases; isn't that true?

20 A Usually the average resolution time for
21 meso is shorter, but there is a distribution of
22 times with some mesothelioma claims taking a long
23 time to be resolved.

24 Q Do you know how frequently it occurs that
25 a mesothelioma claim remains for eight years as an

1 unspecified disease and then, after eight years, it
2 turns out that the disease specified as mesothelioma
3 that was diagnosed eight years ago?

4 A I don't understand that question.

5 Q Let me start over. Do you know how often
6 it is that, after eight years in the database of
7 GAF, a claim was specified as mesothelioma and the
8 diagnosis date had been eight years before as
9 opposed to a claim that started as a nonmalignant
10 and the mesothelioma showed up subsequently?

11 A Well, I don't know what and I can't tell
12 from the database and neither can you what CCR knew
13 about the diseases for these claims. Presumably,
14 most of them were resolved in the eight-year period
15 of time, and they may or may not have learned what
16 the disease was at the time they resolved, it and
17 they may or may not have entered it into the
18 database. I've been telling you that repeatedly.
19 Simply because the data were not entered into the
20 database doesn't mean that CCR was ignorant of the
21 disease.

22 Q How often do you think diseases were
23 entered into the databases?

24 A What percentage of cases or how frequently
25 they did it or what?

1 Q How often do you think the updates were
2 done? Is that once a month? Once a year?

3 A It isn't done in that fashion. You do it
4 when you get the information in or you don't.
5 There's not a screening of all cases to see do we
6 have all the disease input. That's not efficient.
7 That's not the way these databases are maintained.

8 Q Do you agree that there is no compensable
9 claim for an unknown disease claim?

10 A I don't know how you're using the
11 term "unknown disease claim."

12 Q Do you agree that the defendant will not
13 pay money unless you tell them what's wrong with
14 them?

15 A That's not always true.

16 Q So sometimes that defendants do pay money
17 when the claimants don't tell them what's wrong with
18 them?

19 A In group settlements, there may have been
20 an agreement to pay claims. Generally, they require
21 the plaintiffs' law firm to identify the disease.
22 Sometimes, they just buy a book of claims and
23 will -- a defendant is willing to pay \$100,000 to
24 get rid of 1,000 claims at \$100 a piece. They
25 really at that point don't much care. They can get

1 a release for these 1,000 claimants, and that's
2 sufficient.

3 Q Do you remember National Gypsum, that you
4 concluded that there shouldn't be a category carried
5 along for unknown diseases?

6 A I remember testifying to that effect, yes.

7 Q Did you do that for the simple reason that
8 there is no compensable claim that's an unknown
9 disease?

10 A That's not a -- that was what I said at
11 the time. I disagree with that whole issue now.

12 Q And you would disagree with your testimony
13 there because of the answer you just gave me, that
14 there's sometimes group settlements where some
15 unknown disease claims are picked up?

16 A I don't necessarily disagree with that
17 testimony. The issue of compensable is different
18 than compensated. They mean different things.
19 There are cases that a defendant will -- this is one
20 of the complaints of defendants, that there are
21 cases that money is paid on when they think that
22 they may not have to pay that but they're just doing
23 it out of nuisance. That certainly happens. I was
24 testifying about compensable claims there, but I
25 disagree with that practice. It turned out to have

1 been a faulty and problematic practice that I
2 testified to there. .

3 Q Looking at table 7, top of page 15, is
4 that the allocation that you have done?

5 A That's the result of the allocation.

6 Q How can we find out how many numbers came
7 in through the allocation?

8 A Compare table 7 to table 3 on page 13.

9 Q So one of the results of the allocation
10 was, in the mesothelioma category, the number of
11 pending claims went from 1602 to 1774; is that
12 right?

13 A Yes.

14 Q So it is inherent in that analysis that
15 there were 172, if I did my subtraction right,
16 mesothelioma claims that sat around for eight years,
17 and they were not entered as mesothelioma claims in
18 the CCR database?

19 MR. FINCH: Object to form.

20 BY MR. MILLER:

21 Q Is that correct?

22 MR. FINCH: Object to form.

23 Mischaracterizes prior testimony.

24 THE WITNESS: I don't know what -- this
25 data extract had them as unspecified diseases. Some

1 fraction of them were certainly mesos, and whether
2 or not they were identified as mesos in a CCR
3 database in the 2002 extract, they did not have any
4 identification of meso or any other disease.

5 BY MR. MILLER:

6 Q So my question again is, your transition
7 matrix takes 172 unspecified claims and
8 recategorizes them eight years after they were filed
9 as mesothelioma claims; is that correct?

10 A Could you read the question?

11 (The reporter read the record as
12 requested.)

13 THE WITNESS: Yes, actually.

14 BY MR. MILLER:

15 Q And your transition matrix takes the
16 difference between 284 lung cancer claims and 392
17 lung cancer claims and makes that recategorization;
18 is that correct?

19 MR. FINCH: Object to form. It's not
20 correct. The numbers are 2834 and 3392.

21 MR. MILLER: 30 -- what? 3292?

22 MR. FINCH: 2834 and 3392.

23 BY MR. MILLER:

24 Q Let me read them again. I must have
25 misread them. I'm sorry. It takes 2834 lung cancer

1 claims, and it reclassifies the difference between
2 that number and 3392 as lung cancer claims; is that
3 correct?

4 A It takes 14 -- your question is
5 unintelligible as state. It takes 14,588
6 unspecified claims and takes a number of claims that
7 were pending on December 31st, 1993, that may or may
8 not have settled since then. Of that 14,588, it
9 moves about 580 of them and assumes that they are
10 lung cancer claims -- 560.

11 Q So those are 560 claims that had been on
12 the database for eight years, but the lung cancer
13 disease category had not been assigned to them; is
14 that correct?

15 A The lung cancer had not been assigned to
16 them in a GAF database. It may have been assigned
17 in another CCR database, and it may have been
18 learned by CCR without having been changed on any
19 database. All of those things happen.

20 Q But you haven't done any checking to see,
21 in fact, what -- whether any of those claims were
22 specified with any disease in some other database;
23 is that correct?

24 A Well, I have not looked at that issue with
25 regard to this database, because I don't have a

1 contemporaneous database from other defendants.

2 But I've looked generally at -- I've
3 looked at other CCR databases, and I can say with
4 certainty that, among that 14,588 claims that have
5 an unspecified disease data in the GAF database,
6 some of them will have diseases specified in a CCR
7 database. I know that for a certainty, because
8 that's the experience I've seen with regard to CCR
9 databases. Why that should be the case, I don't
10 know. You need to ask Peterson Consulting.

11 Q The mesothelioma and the lung cancer
12 claims were recognized by the CCR to be the more
13 extensive claims in general to settle than the
14 nonmalignant claims; is that true?

15 A CCR paid, on average, more money to
16 resolve mesothelioma and lung cancer claims than on
17 average for the diseases, yes.

18 Q And plaintiffs' lawyers knew that as of
19 1994; correct?

20 A Yes.

21 Q If a plaintiffs' lawyer had a mesothelioma
22 claim, isn't it likely that the plaintiffs' lawyer
23 would try to notify the CCR that this is a
24 mesothelioma claim as opposed to a less valuable
25 claim?

1 A I would think that's likely.

2 Q Isn't it also likely that the CCR, knowing
3 that its most serious category of claims, would have
4 an incentive to make sure that got written down
5 correctly?

6 A Not necessarily.

7 Q Why not?

8 A Sometimes, there are errors. Sometimes
9 they settle claims and they don't put it down.
10 Sometimes it's obviously entered in one of the CCR
11 databases but not in another. The fact that data
12 are missing from a database could have many sources.

13 Q You don't think the notion is that if
14 you've got a mesothelioma claim, it will probably be
15 written down as a mesothelioma claim in the
16 database?

17 A Probably, but not certainly.

18 Q Don't you think it's more likely to be
19 written down if it's a mesothelioma claim than a
20 nonmalignant claim?

21 A Yes. And that's why the transition matrix
22 only assigns 1.4 percent of the unknown diseases to
23 mesothelioma as opposed to 60-some percent to
24 nonmalignants. Or if you did a pro rata
25 distribution, you assign fewer claims to

1 mesothelioma than the pro rata distribution would
2 give you for precisely that reason. But empirically
3 and demonstratively, it's the case that some of
4 these turn out to be mesothelioma.

5 Q Where do we go to find that empirical,
6 demonstrative evidence you refer to?

7 A The best source to go is the testimony and
8 the exhibits in the National Gypsum case.

9 Q Which testimony shows that it's
10 empirically and demonstrative the case that claims
11 that are eight years old, some of them are going to
12 be classified as mesothelioma claims?

13 A That isn't what I said.

14 Q Well, you said it's empirically and
15 demonstratively the case that some of these turn out
16 to be mesothelioma. So what did you mean by "some
17 of these" in that analysis?

18 A Claims that don't have a specified disease
19 in a CCR database.

20 Q Over what period of time, sir?

21 A I don't have -- I'm not bounding it or
22 constraining it by time.

23 Q And again, you don't know for this matrix
24 study that you're relying upon what the interval was
25 between the first database that you say CCR looked

1 at and the second database; right?

2 A It had to have been no more than four
3 years.

4 Q Four years or less?

5 A That's what I said.

6 Q It could not have been eight years;
7 correct?

8 A CCR wasn't in existence for eight years in
9 1992.

10 Q Do you know if it inherited any databases
11 from the asbestos claims facility?

12 A Ah, thank you. Yes, it did. It took
13 the -- well, actually, it took the databases from
14 its individual members and created the ACF database,
15 and then it took the ACF database then was
16 transported to the CCR database. So I will -- thank
17 you. I'll correct my statement. Some of them could
18 have been eight years.

19 Q So again, you don't know what the time
20 frame was between the first database that they used
21 and the second database in that study?

22 A It wasn't a study constrained by time.

23 Q It had to have some time interval between
24 the first database and the second database; right?

25 A It was less than 100 years.

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1 Q Let's change subjects on that note. Would
2 you find Dr. Martin's report, please?

3 MR. MILLER: Could I get a time estimate,
4 please?

5 VIDEO OPERATOR: On this tape, we've gone
6 an hour and 8 minutes.

7 MR. MILLER: What's our total so far?

8 VIDEO OPERATOR: 5 hours and 59 minutes.

9 THE WITNESS: I'm going to take a
10 two-minute break.

11 MR. MILLER: Let's take a break. Let's
12 recompute.

13 VIDEO OPERATOR: We're going off the
14 record. The time is approximately 4:51 p.m.

15 (Recess.)

16 VIDEO OPERATOR: We're back on the record.
17 The time is approximately 5:02 p.m.

18 BY MR. MILLER:

19 Q Would you find Peterson Exhibit 4, the
20 rebuttal report of Dr. Denise Martin, please?

21 A I have that.

22 Q Would you turn with me, please, to Exhibit
23 12? Have you looked at this exhibit, "Substituting
24 Assumptions With a Reasonable Economic Basis Reduces
25 Dr. Peterson's Estimate of GAF's Future Liability

1 Significantly"? That's the title of it.

2 A Briefly.

3 Q The first adjustment is
4 titled "Adjustments to Reflect Propensity to Sue
5 With Reasonable Economic Basis," and it refers to
6 footnotes 2 and 3. Do you see that?

7 A Yes.

8 Q And have you previously read footnotes 2
9 and 3?

10 A I'm not sure whether or not I did.

11 Q Would you turn with me --

12 A I am reading it now actually in Exhibit
13 12.

14 Q Would you, please, read footnotes 2 and 3
15 to yourself and tell me when you've done that, sir?
16 Sorry, are you looking up something else, sir?

17 A There's a reference at footnote 3 to table
18 38 in my report. So I'm looking at that, too.

19 All right. I've read footnotes 2 and 3
20 which are on exhibit 12, and I've also looked at my
21 table 38 on page 49 to my report.

22 Q Footnote 2 says that one of the
23 adjustments illustrated on this exhibit is using the
24 1991 period to calibrate the nonmalignant
25 multiplier. Do you see that?

1 A Yes.

2 Q You chose not to do that in your own
3 analysis; correct?

4 A I didn't do it.

5 Q Would you agree that there is a reasonable
6 economic basis for making that assumption and that
7 that is one reasonable way to compute the
8 nonmalignant calibration period?

9 A Would you read that question, please?

10 (The reporter read the record as
11 requested.)

12 THE WITNESS: I don't understand your
13 question.

14 BY MR. MILLER:

15 Q Let me try it again. Economists and other
16 experts who do asbestos estimation can sometimes
17 disagree on methodology; isn't that true?

18 A Can and do.

19 Q And sometimes, there are several
20 reasonable ways to do something; isn't that true?

21 A Yes, sometimes for some things.

22 Q All right. This might be what some people
23 would say reasonable experts could disagree on.
24 That might be another way to talk about that
25 concept. Is that the same concept that we're

1 talking about?

2 A I don't understand that question.

3 Q All right. Let me ask it this way: Do
4 you believe there is a reasonable economic basis or
5 there is not a reasonable economic basis for using
6 1990 through 1991 as the calibration period to
7 estimate the nonmalignant multiplier?

8 A I don't understand what "reasonable
9 economic basis" is. This is not economics.

10 Q You don't think it's economics?

11 A No.

12 Q Why not?

13 A Essentially, it's dealing with the
14 behavioral science of empirical analysis of legal
15 process. So it's kind of a broader set of skills
16 than simply economics.

17 Q So you don't have any opinion one way or
18 another as to whether an economist would find there
19 was a reasonable economic basis for this?

20 A I think -- I don't want to be glib. It's
21 a different issue about is it reasonable analytic
22 assumption and a reasonable -- I'm not an economist,
23 'proudly not, and so you're asking me to put myself
24 in the shoes of what's reasonable for an economist
25 to do. I have more difficulty in saying than

1 someone who understands asbestos litigation and has
2 studied it for 25 years. Do I think that this is a
3 reasonable analytic step to do? That's a question I
4 can address more comfortably than asking me to put
5 myself in the skin of an economist.

6 Q I will ask, then, the question that you
7 suggest you're more comfortable with. Do you think
8 that this is a reasonable analytic step to do?

9 A No.

10 Q Why not?

11 A While I think that there probably was some
12 acceleration of claim filing or generation of
13 additional claims because of the Georgine --
14 pendency of the Georgine class action, I think it's
15 inappropriate to assume that all of the differences
16 between the '92 and '93 nonmalignant claim filings
17 and 1990 and '91 is due to that acceleration,
18 particularly in the absence of any empirical
19 demonstration of an acceleration. It's too
20 aggressive of an assumption. I don't think it's
21 reasonable to think that's the only reason for
22 nonmalignant claim filings to have increased in '92
23 and '93.

24 Q Footnote 3 refers to the use of the
25 decreasing propensity to sue model as set out in

1 table 38 to forecast malignant claims.

2 Do you see that?

3 A Yes.

4 Q Again, I assume that since you're not an
5 economist, you don't have any opinion on whether
6 there is a reasonable economic basis for using that
7 approach; is that correct?

8 A I don't even understand the nature of the
9 representation of "reasonable economic basis."

10 Q Changing it to the question that you said
11 you feel more comfortable with, do you think this is
12 a reasonable analytic step?

13 A I don't think, in light of the experience
14 of this defendant and what was happening at this
15 time, that it is a reasonable estimate. It's
16 certainly not the best estimate.

17 Q What is the experience of this defendant
18 that you're referring to in that answer?

19 A Well, in asbestos litigation as a whole.
20 In 1992 and 1993, there were some dramatic changes
21 in asbestos litigation, in the latter part of 1992
22 and 1993 that made it unlikely that GAF would see a
23 decrease in the propensity to sue in future years.

24 Such things as the entry of the verdicts
25 in the Baltimore consolidated litigation, the

1 increased use of consolidations among various courts
2 across the country, the significant addition of
3 assets to asbestos litigation to compensate claims.
4 All of those were significant changes, among other
5 things, that made it unlikely that the propensity to
6 sue would decline. Plus, GAF's own claims
7 experience were inconsistent with that.

8 Q How was GAF's own claims experience
9 inconsistent?

10 A For two of the three cancers, the
11 propensities to sue were increasing. Its propensity
12 to sue for mesos had declined only because of the --
13 in the last year, but over the long term had been
14 increasing and the nonmalignant claims were up
15 sharply.

16 Q If you go back to the first page, the
17 second entry is "adjustment to reflect claims pay
18 profile" --

19 A I'm sorry. Where are you?

20 Q The first page of exhibit 12, the second
21 entry is titled "Adjustment to Reflect Claims Pay
22 Profile With Reasonable Economic Basis," referring
23 to footnotes 4 and 5. Do you see that?

24 A I'm sorry. I'm lost. You're on exhibit
25 12, first page?